

Serial No. 10/580,914

In the Claims

1-18 (Canceled)

19 (Withdrawn): A method for packaging a flexible hydrophilic intraocular lens, in which:

- the lens is placed on an injection support including an implantation end through which the lens can be slid and ejected for intraocular implantation, said injection support being adapted to receive and carry the lens and to be associated with an injection device including a thruster piston able to push the lens on the injection support towards the implantation end,
- the lens and the injection support are placed in a packaging enclosing a volume of liquid solution for conserving the lens which bathes the lens and keeps it hydrated, wherein:
- an injection support adapted to receive and carry the lens flat and to carry out folding of the lens prior to ejection of the latter via the implantation end is used;
- the lens is placed flat on the injection support and is immersed in a bath of liquid conserving solution contained in a liquid-tight rigid flask which is closed, and
- the assembly is then steam-sterilized.

20 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the rigid flask is placed prior to sterilization in an outer packaging envelope compatible with steam sterilization.

21 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein an injection support is used which is adapted to carry out the folding by a simple translational movement imparted to the lens when the latter is pushed towards the implantation end.

22 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein an injection support carried removably by a stopper for closing the rigid flask is used.

23 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein an injection support is used which is associated with an injection device including a hollow cylindrical body for receiving the thruster piston adapted to slide in a sealed manner in the

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cylindrical body, wherein the rigid flask and the cylindrical body are adapted to be fixed rigidly and sealingly to one another, the injection support extending in the liquid conserving fluid in the rigid flask, but to be fixed in such a way that they can be separated from one another in order to utilize the injection device to implant the lens.

24 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the rigid flask and the cylindrical body are fixed to one another by screwing an end of the rigid flask to the outer wall of the cylindrical body in such a way as to ensure liquid-tightness between the rigid flask and the outer wall of the cylindrical body.

25 (Currently Amended): A device for packaging and conserving in a sterile condition a flexible hydrophilic intraocular lens, comprising:

- an injection support including an implantation end through which the lens can be slid and ejected for intraocular implantation, said injection support being adapted to receive and carry the lens and to be associated with an injection device including a thruster piston able to push the lens towards an implantation end of the injection support;
- a flexible hydrophilic intraocular lens placed on the injection support;
- a packaging enclosing at least the lens, injection support and a volume of liquid solution for conserving the lens which bathes the lens and keeps it hydrated, wherein,
- the injection support is adapted to receive and carry the lens flat and to carry out folding of the lens prior to ejection of the latter via the implantation end;
- the lens is carried flat on the injection support and immersed in a bath of liquid conserving solution contained in a rigid liquid-tight flask which is closed, and
- the ~~assembly~~ device is in a sterilized condition.

26 (Previously presented): A device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the rigid flask is enclosed in an outer packaging envelope compatible with steam sterilization.

27 (Previously presented): A device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the injection support is adapted to carry out the folding by a simple translational movement imparted to

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the lens when the latter is pushed towards the implantation end.

28 (Previously presented): A device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the injection support is adapted to carry out the folding by a simple translational movement imparted to the lens when the latter is pushed towards the implantation end.

29 (Previously presented): A device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the injection support is carried removably by a stopper for closing the rigid flask.

30 (Previously presented): A device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the injection support is associated with an injection device including a hollow cylindrical body for

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